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PETERSFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

Sanitary Inspector

for the year

1949

PETERSFIELD :

THWAITES & WATTS, LAVANT STREET

1950

PETERSFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
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Medical Officer of Health
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THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF PETERSFIELD.

Chairman of the Council :
(1949-50)

* MR. S. FILER.

Vice-Chairman :
ADMIRAL SIR STUART BONHAM-CARTER.

Members of the Council :
(1949-50)

MR. K. GAMMON.	MR. W. H. LEGOUBIN.
* MR. R. GOSLING.	MR. F. G. ROGERS.
* MRS. A. A. HAYES.	MR. M. R. URQUHART.
MR. H. JACOBS.	MR. J. G. VINCE.
* LT.-COL. C. L. WEMYSS.	

Chairman of Health Committee :
MR. D. K. CLARKE.

* Other Members of the Health Committee.

Public Health Officers :

Medical Officer of Health :
S. CHALMERS PARRY, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector and Meat and Food Inspector :
F. G. BRADLEY, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I.

PETERSFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

TOWN HALL,
PETERSFIELD.

July, 1950.

*To the Chairman and Members
of the Petersfield Urban District Council.*

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1949 on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Urban District of Petersfield.

It is satisfactory to report there have been no deaths from infectious diseases and, apart from measles, there has been no epidemic.

No case of diphtheria was notified during the year.

In April, the County Council delegated powers of administration over the Day Nursery to this Council.

Petersfield Isolation Hospital, which had been closed at the end of 1948, was re-opened in October, 1949, for the admission of chronic sick patients. It is now known as "Heathside Hospital."

During the year, a separate Public Health Department was established ; and I should like to take this opportunity of personally thanking you all for your support in bringing about this change which, I am sure, will lead to greater efficiency.

The general arrangement of this Report has been retained in order that it should serve also as a guide to the health services available for the district.

I am grateful to Mr. Bradley not only for his valuable co-operation and assistance in compiling this Report, but also for his help in the organisation and administration of this new department.

J. Chadmers Parry.

Medical Officer of Health,
Petersfield Urban District Council.

LEGISLATION.

During the year 1949, the following Acts of Public Health significance came into operation :—

1. The Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944.
2. The Milk (Special Designations) Act, 1949
3. Housing Act, 1949.

The Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944, which came into operation on the 1st October, 1949, made the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries directly responsible for milk production on the farm, while Local Authorities retained their administrative control of milk distributors and retail dairies.

The Milk (Special Designations) Act, 1949, re-enacted and co-ordinated the provisions of the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1936-46. The regulations, made under this Act, placed a duty on the Local Authority to issue Dealers' Licences permitting the use of special designations in relation to milk sold in their district.

The Housing Act, 1949, permits monetary "improvement grants" to be made to Local Authorities and private persons in respect of housing accommodation provided or improved by them.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Area	...	...	...	...	2,931 acres.
Rateable Value (31/3/50)	...	...	...	...	£58,600.
Sum represented by a penny rate (31/3/50)	...	...	...	...	£235.
Population	...	...	...	...	6,770.
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...	...	1,973.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The district is situated in Eastern Hampshire bordering on West Sussex.

The predominant geographical features are the South Downs, which lie to the south, and the Stoner Hill district which lies to the west.

Petersfield is a Market Town and shopping centre for the surrounding districts.

The district is mainly residential, but there are a few light industries—the principal one being a rubber works.

The open space, known as the Heath, includes a boating lake, cricket ground, tennis courts and golf course.

New playing fields have recently been provided at Love Lane, and a children's playground is situated in Bell Hill.

Water.

The chief source of supply is from two deep boreholes situated at Sheet. This is augmented by spring water from Oakshott.

Drainage and Sewerage.

With the exception of the village of Stroud and a few houses at Sheet, the whole of the district is served by the sewerage system.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births.	1948.			1949.		
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
Live Births (Legitimate)	53	45	98	43	45	88
(Illegitimate)	1	5	6	2	3	5
Total Live Births	...		104			93

Live Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated population was 13·73 compared with 16·7 for the whole of England and Wales.

	1948.			1949.		
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
Still Births (Legitimate)	1	—	1	2	—	2
Total Still Births			1			2

Still Birth rate per 1,000 (live and still) births was 21 compared with 23 for the whole of England and Wales.

Deaths.	1948.			1949.		
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
From all causes	39	52	91	44	42	86

Death rate per 1,000 estimated average population was 12·55 compared with 11·7 for the whole of England and Wales.

Maternal Mortality.

	1948.	1949.
From Puerperal Sepsis ...	Nil	Nil
From other Puerperal Causes ...	Nil	Nil
<i>Maternal Mortality rate</i> per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 0·0.		

Infant Mortality (deaths under one year).

		1948.			1949.		
		M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate	...	1	2	3	—	1	1
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
				—			—
				3			1
				—			—

Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births was 10·75 compared with 32 for the whole of England and Wales.

Deaths from—

	Total.
Cancer (all ages) ...	14
Measles (all ages) ...	Nil
Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	Nil
Diarrhoea (under two years) ...	Nil

Causes of Death.

	MALE.	FEMALE.
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever ...	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	—	—
5. Diphtheria	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	—	2
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	—	1
8. Syphilis	—	—
9. Influenza	1	1
10. Measles	—	—
11. Acute Polio-myelitis and Polio-encephalitis	—	—
12. Acute Infective Encephalitis	—	—
13. Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus	—	—
14. Cancer of Stomach	1	—
15. Cancer of Breast	—	—
16. Cancer of all other sites	7	6
17. Diabetes	—	—
18. Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	10	8
19. Heart Disease	13	17
20. Other Diseases of Circulatory System ...	5	—
21. Bronchitis	1	—
22. Pneumonia	—	1
23. Other Respiratory Disease	1	2
24. Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	—	—
25. Diarrhœa (under two years)	—	—
26. Appendicitis	—	—
27. Other Digestive Diseases	—	1
28. Nephritis	1	1
29. Puerperal or Post-abortive Sepsis —	—	—
30. Other Maternal Causes	—	—
31. Premature Birth	—	1
32. Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury and Infantile Disease	—	—
33. Suicide	1	—
34. Road Traffic Accidents	—	—
35. Other Violent Causes	—	—
36. All other causes	3	1
	44	42

ANALYSIS OF THE CAUSES OF DEATH ACCORDING TO AGE.

Causes of Death.

AGE GROUPS.

	0-1		1-10		10-20		20-30		30-40		40-50		50-60		60-70		70-80		80-90		90-100	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cancer of Stomach ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cancer of all other Sites ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	2	3	2	2	1	-	-	-	-
Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	3	3	4	-	1	3	1	1
Heart Disease ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	5	7	5	2	7	1	-
Other Diseases of Circulatory System ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-
Bronchitis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Influenza ...	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Other Digestive Diseases ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Other Respiratory Diseases ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Neptiritis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Premature Birth ...	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Suicide ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
All other causes ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-
TOTAL ...	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	1	4	3	4	2	8	11	18	8	7	13	2	1

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Ambulance Facilities.

A British Red Cross ambulance is available day and night at the County Ambulance Station, Heath Road, Petersfield (Telephone, Petersfield 781) both for ordinary sickness cases and infectious disease cases.

Other ambulances which can be called in the event of an emergency are available at Alton (Telephone, Alton 3161) and Havant (Telephone, Havant 620).

Arrangements for the removal of suspected or confirmed cases of small pox are made through the Aldershot Ambulance Station (Telephone, Aldershot 299).

Laboratory Facilities.

Bacteriological work is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory at the Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester (Telephone 3807) and specimens of clinical materials (sputum, swabs, etc.) and samples of water, milk and foodstuffs are sent for bacteriological examination to Dr. R. Mackenzie, Director of the Public Health Laboratory.

The County Laboratory is now closed and samples of water, sewage, milk, etc. for chemical analyses are sent to the City Analyst, Portsmouth (Telephone, Portsmouth 5482).

Nursing in the Home.

There are two midwives practising in Petersfield. Miss B. E. Bloomfield, s.c.m., Jasmine Cottage, Town Lane, Sheet, Petersfield (Telephone 667) serves Stroud, Sheet and North Petersfield, and Miss E. E. Heins, s.c.m., 2 Petersfield Road, Buriton (Telephone 628) carries out her duties in South Petersfield.

The Health Visitor, Mrs. C. E. Foster, s.r.n., s.c.m., A.R.San.I., carries out the Public Health work in the district under the direction of the County Medical Officer.

Day Nursery.

The control of the Day Nursery vests in the Council's Public Health Committee, who have appointed a sub-committee for its day-to-day management.

The building adjoins the County Council Health Centre, Ramshill, and has accommodation for twenty-five children between the ages of two and five years.

It is available for the use of mothers who are out at work and unable to look after their children during the day.

Clinics.

A County Council Health Centre was opened at 1 Ramshill, Petersfield, in March, 1950. The following Clinics are held there : —

*Ophthalmic Clinic	1st and 3rd Monday afternoons by appointment.
*Orthopædic Remedial Clinic ...	1st Tuesday mornings and other Tuesday afternoons by appointment.
Ante-natal Clinic	1st Tuesday afternoons.
Child Welfare Centre	Wednesday afternoons.
Verminous Cleansing Clinic ...	Friday mornings.
School Clinic	Friday mornings.
Dental Clinic	By appointment.

Child Welfare Centre.

A Local Committee is responsible for the work of the Child Welfare Centre, Ramshill, which meets every Wednesday afternoon.

The work of these voluntary helpers, who assist the Medical staff, is greatly appreciated.

Ante-natal Clinic.

An ante-natal Clinic is held on the 1st Tuesday of the month at Ramshill.

*Tuberculosis Clinic.

A Tuberculosis Clinic is held every Thursday from 9.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. at the County Council Health Centre, Park Way, Havant.

Dr. Butterworth, the Assistant Tuberculosis Officer, is in attendance.

*Venereal Diseases.

Treatment is available at St. Mary's Hospital, Portsmouth.

MALES—Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

FEMALES—Mondays 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., Wednesdays 2 p.m., Fridays 10 a.m.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES.

*Orthopædic Clinics.

Orthopædic cases, requiring treatment, are referred through the Lord Mayor Treloar's Hospital, Alton, to the following Clinics :—

Alton. *Surgeon's Clinic*, held at Lord Mayor Treloar Cripples' Hospital, on fourth Tuesdays, odd months, at 10 a.m.

Minor Clinic, attended by Surgeon, held at Lord Mayor Treloar Cripples' Hospital, on fourth Saturdays, even months, at 10 a.m.

Havant. *Surgeon's Clinic*, held at County Council Health Centre on fourth Tuesdays, even months, at 10 a.m.

Minor Clinic, held at County Council Health Centre on ~~third~~ Wednesdays, odd months, at 10 a.m. **second & fourth**

Petersfield *Remedial Clinic*.

A Remedial Clinic is held at the County Council Health Centre, Ramshill, on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. and on the remaining Tuesdays at 1.30 p.m.

Orthopædic cases, requiring remedial treatment, are referred to this Clinic.

*Ophthalmic Clinic.

This is held for school and pre-school children at the County Council Health Centre, Ramshill, on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month at 1.30 p.m. Attendance by appointment through the County Medical Officer.

*Orthoptic Clinics.

Cases, selected by the School Oculist, are referred to the Eye and Ear Hospital, Portsmouth.

Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics.

Cases, referred for specialist advice, are examined at the Portsmouth Eye and Ear Hospital and treatment is carried out either at that hospital or at Petersfield Hospital.

School Clinic.

This is held at the County Council Health Centre, Petersfield, on Friday mornings.

The Health Visitor attends every Friday morning till noon ; but the Medical Officer only attends on the 1st Friday of the month.

Speech Therapy Clinic.

Cases attend at the Council Health Centre, Park Way, Havant, on Wednesday at 9.30 a.m. and 1.30 p.m. by appointment.

Child Guidance Clinic.

Urgent cases are seen by appointment at St. George's Hall, Waterlooville, on Mondays at 10 a.m.

Vermineous Cleansing Clinic.

A Cleansing Centre is available at the County Council Health Centre, Ramshill, Petersfield.

The Clinic is held on Fridays at 9.30 a.m.

Dental Clinic.

Dental Clinics, when required, are held at the Schools and at the County Council Health Centre, Ramshill.

** These services are the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board.*

HOSPITALS.**General.**

There are three general hospitals available for the admission of patients from Petersfield.

PETERSFIELD GENERAL HOSPITAL.

The Petersfield Hospital (Telephone 19) has thirty-two beds available for medical, surgical and maternity cases.

It is now administered by a local Committee under the control of the Regional Hospital Board.

THE ROYAL HOSPITAL PORTSMOUTH.
(Telephone, Portsmouth 2103).**THE ROYAL HAMPSHIRE COUNTY HOSPITAL, WINCHESTER.**
(Telephone, Winchester 2345).

Heathside Hospital, Petersfield.

At the end of 1948 Petersfield Isolation Hospital was closed and it was re-named "Heathside Hospital." This institution, which is now under the control of the same committee as the General Hospital, Petersfield, was re-opened on the 1st October, 1949, for the admission of chronic sick patients.

All the chronic sick patients, residing at Waltham House, Droxford, were transferred to Heathside Hospital.

Infectious Diseases.

Since the closure of the Petersfield Infectious Disease Hospital, there is no infectious disease hospital situated in the district.

Any Infectious Disease Hospital is now available for the admission of cases occurring in the district. Patients are generally admitted to Portsmouth Infectious Diseases Hospital, Milton Road (Telephone, Portsmouth 2046), which is under the control of the Regional Hospital Board.

Special arrangements have been made for the admission of children suffering from acute polio-myelitis to Lord Mayor Treloar Hospital, Alton (Telephone 2238).

Sanatoria.

Sanatoria for patients, who are suffering from Tuberculosis, are provided by the Regional Hospital Board.

Small Pox.

The Regional Hospital Board makes provision for the treatment of cases of small pox at Crabwood Small Pox Hospital. The Connty Medical Officer arranges for the admission of the patients.

HOUSING.

Provislon of New Houses.

During the year twenty-three traditional type houses and flats were completed by the Council. Twenty-six Reema type permanent pre-fabs. were also erected.

In addition, six houses were built by private enterprise and one house was converted to make two flats.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

The Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies Act) 1944, came into operation on the 1st October, 1949.

Supervision of milk production on the farms, is now the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Local Authorities retain their administrative control of milk distributors and retail dairies.

The Milk (Special Designation) Act, 1949, and regulations made thereunder, deal with the issue of licences for the following grades of milk :—

1. Tuberculin Tested.
2. Accredited.
3. Pasteurised.
4. Sterilised.

1. TUBERCULIN TESTED.

Milk Licences to produce this grade of milk are now issued by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Local Authorities may issue "Dealers' Licences" authorising the use of the designation in relation to milk sold in the district.

Three "Dealers' Licences" were issued during the year.

2. ACCREDITED MILK.

Licences to produce this grade of milk are also issued by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

New Accredited Licences will not be issued after 1952 and the designation will cease to exist in 1954.

Local Authorities may issue "Dealers' Licences" for the retail sale of Accredited Milk. No such licences were issued during the year.

3. PASTEURISED MILK.

The Act places the responsibility on Food and Drugs Authorities for issuing licences to Pasteurise.

The Hampshire County Council who are the Food and Drugs Authority in this district, have delegated their functions under the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Regulations, 1949, to the Councils of County Districts, who will now officially continue the supervision and sampling of Pasteurisation plants. The new regulations retain most of the

provisions of the previous regulations, and continues to allow the use of H.T.S.T. plants. The minimum temperature for H.T.S.T. plants has been reduced by one degree to 161° F. for fifteen seconds.

These plants have now been thoroughly tested and in large dairies are replacing "Holder Type" plants, in which milk must be held at 145-150° F. for thirty minutes.

Three licences to produce Pasteurised Milk were issued by this Council in 1949. Over ninety per cent of all the milk sold in the district is now pasteurised. All the milk supplied to schools is pasteurised.

4. STERILISED MILK.

This is a new designation, and requires that milk shall be filtered and clarified, homogenised and heated to and maintained at not less than 212° F. for such a period as to ensure that it will comply with a turbidity test as prescribed in the regulations. There are no plants for the production of this grade of milk in the Urban District, but a "Dealers' Licence" to sell sterilised milk has been granted to a Southsea firm.

Meat and other Foods.

The Government slaughter-house is still in operation at Grange Farm. One great advantage of centralised slaughtering is the fact that it makes it possible for all meat to be inspected. It is hoped that some form of centralised slaughtering will be continued and that private slaughter-houses will never be re-opened.

The Ministries of Health and Food continued their campaign to promote greater cleanliness in all premises where food is handled.

It is satisfactory to report that no cases of food poisoning or of illness, caused by the consumption of food and drink, were notified in this district, although numerous outbreaks were recorded throughout the country. As these outbreaks are almost entirely due to the lack of cleanliness amongst the personnel of food premises, a circular letter was sent out again this year to all food premises, pointing out the dangers and how best to avoid them.

The two types of germ that can thrive in the human body and are mainly responsible for cases of food poisoning are the *Staphylococcus* and the *Salmonella* organisms. The *Staphylococcus* is present in the nose, throat and skin and in septic sores.

The Salmonella is usually found in the bowels ; and, as some people may harbour the germ without being ill, food may easily be infected if such a "carrier" happens to be a food handler.

The washing of hands immediately after using a lavatory is an essential precaution, as toilet paper is porous.

The remedy in both cases is personal cleanliness and, above all, clean hands.

Any employee, infected with diarrhoea or with septic sores or boils, should *not* be allowed to handle food.

Certain foods (e.g. pressed meat, brawn, meat pies, stews, trifles, custards and synthetic cream) are quite safe when fresh ; but, if kept for several hours, act as breeding grounds for any dangerous germs that have gained access.

Refrigeration does not kill the organisms ; but it does retard their growth.

Adulterations.

The law relating to the composition of food and drugs is administered by the County Council. The Food and Drugs Act, 1938, places restrictions on the addition of other substances to any food or drug. It also controls the abstraction from food of any of its constituents. Probably the most important section in Part 1 of the Act is Section 3, which relates to the sale of food and drugs which are not of the nature, substance or quality demanded by the purchaser. Most of the prosecutions which arise are in respect of offences under this section.

I am indebted to Mr. C. O. Perry, Chief Inspector under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, for the information that fifty samples were taken in the district during the year.

Details of these are as follows :—

Milk	...	...	...	32
Butter and other Fats	...	...	...	4
Drugs	...	...	...	2
Sausages and other Meat Products	...	...	...	3
Spirits	...	...	...	4
Other Foods	...	...	...	5

All the samples proved to be genuine. The thirty-two samples of milk contained an average of 3·53% milk fat and 8·75% non-fatty solids, and none was below the minimum limits of 3% milk fat and 8·5% non-fatty solids.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Vaccination.

Since July, 1948 (when the National Health Service Act, 1946 came into operation) public vaccinators ceased to exist and vaccinations are carried out free of charge by any registered medical practitioner who has signified his willingness to accept the scheme.

Parents are advised to have their children vaccinated. The best age for vaccination is about the fourth month.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Children can be immunised by their own doctors or at the Child Welfare Centre.

There is also an Immunisation Clinic, held at the Town Hall, on the fourth Wednesday morning of each month.

During the year, one hundred and twenty-three immunisations against diphtheria were carried out.

<i>Immunisation.</i>	<i>Pre-school Children.</i>	<i>School Children.</i>
Primary ...	82	3
Re-inforcing ...	5	33

At the end of the year, the percentage of immunised pre-school children under the age of five years and of immunised school children between the ages of five and fifteen years were 54.1 and 63.4 per cent respectively.

The following table gives the annual incidence and mortality from diphtheria since 1934 :—

	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941
Cases ...	3	—	13	6	9	1	2	1
Deaths ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949
Cases ...	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

It is satisfactory to report that there has only been one death from diphtheria since the Council's scheme for diphtheria immunisation by general practitioners was commenced in 1935.

It will also be noted that no case of diphtheria occurred during the past six years.

Diphtheria Immunisation Propaganda.

The Ministry of Health now recommends that all children should be immunised before their first birthday—preferably at the age of seven or eight months—and that they should receive a “booster” or re-inforcing dose just before entering school and again every four or five years throughout school life.

A recent report by the Medical Research Council states that, unless the proportion of people immunised against diphtheria is kept up to the 75% level, protection against epidemic diphtheria cannot be reasonably assured.

Immunity against diphtheria takes some weeks to develop and only those who have been inoculated in earlier life can expect protection at short notice. It is, therefore, of the utmost importance for parents to realize that active immunisation in the first year of life and re-inforcing doses of prophylactic in later years are just as necessary in the absence of diphtheria epidemics as in their presence.

Notifiable Diseases.

Particulars of cases of Infectious Diseases, which occurred during the course of the year, are shown in the following table :—

<i>Diseases.</i>	<i>Total Cases Notified.</i>	<i>Total Deaths.</i>
Scarlet Fever	9	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—
Pneumonia	1	—
Dysentery	—	—
Erysipelas	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—
Acute Polio-myelitis and Polio-encephalitis	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—
Measles	193	—
Whooping Cough	19	—
TOTALS	223	...

An analysis of the total notified cases according to age groups is given below :—

	<i>Scarlet Fever.</i>	<i>Measles.</i>	<i>Whooping Cough.</i>	<i>Pneu- monia.</i>	<i>Erysipelas</i>
Under 1 year ...	—	1	1	—	—
1 - 2 years ...	—	17	2	—	—
2 - 3 „ ...	—	31	2	—	—
3 - 4 „ ...	1	21	1	—	—
4 - 5 „ ...	—	26	4	—	—
5 - 10 „ ...	6	83	6	—	—
10 - 15 „ ...	2	9	—	—	—
15 - 20 „ ...	—	3	—	—	—
20 - 35 „ ...	—	2	2	—	—
35 - 45 „ ...	—	—	—	—	—
45 - 65 „ ...	—	—	—	—	1
Over 65 „ ...	—	—	1	1	—

Only certain forms of Pneumonia are notifiable.

No deaths from Infectious Diseases occurred.

Scabies.

Facilities for the treatment of Scabies are available at Havant and Portsmouth Disinfestation Clinics.

Appointments for cases requiring treatment are made through this Department.

Scabies should be regarded as a family infection ; and all members of the same family should present themselves for treatment simultaneously—whether or not they complain of “The Itch” and show evidence of Scabies at the time. Otherwise an early case may escape detection and the parasite may thrive in one member and re-infect the others.

Pediculosis.

Cases of pediculosis (head lice) may be referred for treatment at the Cleansing Clinic, County Council Health Centre, Ramshill, Petersfield, on Friday mornings.

Pediculosis should also be regarded as a family infection ; and, when a child is found to be verminous, all the members of the family should offer themselves for examination. This wise practice would ensure that any undetected case in the same family would receive immediate treatment and that there would be no further spread of infection to others.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Period.				New Cases.				Deaths.			
				Respiratory		Non. Respiratory		Respiratory		Non. Respiratory	
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 1	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 - 5	...	...	...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
5 - 15	...	...	...	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—
15 - 25	...	...	...	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 - 35	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
35 - 45	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
45 - 55	...	...	...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
55 - 65	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL				3	3	2	3	—	2	—	1

On 31st December, 1949, the total number of cases on the register was thirty-nine. No action was taken in 1949 under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis Regulations) 1925 (relating to persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis employed in the milk trade), or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis).

Report on the work of the Sanitary Inspector

for the year ended 31st December, 1949.

Water Supply.

The two sources of supply were sufficient to meet requirements. These supplies are chlorinated and samples are regularly sent for analysis. During the year, thirty-seven samples of the public supply were analysed and all were reported on as very satisfactory.

Three samples of well water were taken, one was satisfactory, and two polluted. The polluted samples were from the same well, which supplied two cottages; following these unsatisfactory samples the premises concerned have now been connected to the public supply.

Drainage and Sewerage.

No major works were carried out during the year on the sewerage system. Five cottages at Sheet were connected to the sewer.

Closet Accommodation.

With few exceptions, the pails of the houses, that are not connected to the public sewer, are emptied twice a week by the Hants Cleansing Service.

Public Cleansing.

The Council is responsible for the cleansing of all the roads in the district.

Refuse collection is carried out weekly at Petersfield and Sheet, and fortnightly at Stroud.

Shops.

All shops are inspected for compliance with the Shops' Act, especially where changes are made. No cases of infringement were found.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

No case of infestation by bed bugs was reported.

Camping Sites.

Regular inspections were made of all licensed sites. These are all reasonably well kept. One family was discovered living in an unlicensed shed, and following representation they ceased occupation.

Rodent Control.

Work on this was maintained throughout the year and block control was carried out. No major infestations were found.

Of the Council's own properties, the Sewage Works, Refuse Dumps at Durford Road and Borough Road, the Council Yard and banks of the stream at the rear, were all dealt with at least twice during the year.

A ten per cent test was made of the sewerage system, only one small section was found to be infested, and this was immediately dealt with. The majority of the sewers run nearly to capacity at times which keeps them clear of rat infestation.

Details of work on Rodent Control.

VISITS AND INSPECTIONS—

Survey and Extermination	...	...	530
COMPLAINTS RE INFESTATION	...	...	42
Premises treated by the Council—			
Council Property	...	...	14
Private Property	...	...	110
Premises treated by Ministry of Agriculture	...		1
TOTAL			125

General Inspection of the Area.

Total number of visits made (including food inspections)	...	...	3242
Number of complaints received and dealt with	...		119

Visits and Inspections.

Bakehouses	...	...	12
Water Supply (sampling of water)	...	...	95
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	4
Shops (under Shops' Acts)	...	...	20
Camping Sites	...	...	9
Common Lodging House	...	...	4
Sewage Works (for Rodent Control)	...	...	26
Refuse Tips re Fly Infestation	...	...	68
Re Disinfection of Rooms	...	...	14
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	18
New Buildings	...	...	156
Infectious Disease	...	...	16
Restaurant Kitchens Cleansed	...	...	2
New Drains and Sewers Tested	...	...	30

**Summary of work carried out under
Public Health and Housing Act.**

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year—
 - (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 46
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 104
 - (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head [1] above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 16
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 66
 - (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... 2
 - (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be, in all respects, reasonably fit for human habitation ... 32
2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notices—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... 30
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year—
 - (a) Proceeding under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936—
 - (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs 2
 - (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices —
 - (a) By owners 2
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners Nil
4. Overcrowding—

No serious cases of overcrowding were found during the year.

More housing repair work was carried out than in recent years, materials were more plentiful and more labour was available.

A list of major repairs carried out under notice is as follows:—

Roofs repaired	...	...	19
Gutters repaired or renewed	...	...	1
Walls repaired or renewed	...	...	4
Drains tested	...	...	5
Choked drains cleared	...	...	3
New connections to sewer	...	...	2
Drainage improved	...	...	3
New manhole covers fitted	...	...	5
New sinks provided	...	...	2
New W.C. pans provided	...	...	3
W.C.'s repaired	...	...	5
Dampness remedied	...	...	22
Windows repaired or renewed	...	...	10
Ceilings repaired or renewed	...	...	18
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	10
Ranges repaired or renewed	...	...	8
Rooms cleansed	...	...	5
Accumulations cleared	...	...	1
Nuisances abated	...	...	14
Verminous premises disinfested	...	...	3

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

The Food and Drugs Act, 1944 came into force on 1st October, 1949. Under this act supervision of milk production passes to the Ministry of Agriculture.

Local Authorities will still be responsible for the supervision of dairies. Under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1949, the licensing of Pasteurising plants is the responsibility of Food and Drugs Authorities. The Hampshire County Council have delegated their functions under these regulations to the Councils of County Districts.

The supervision and sampling of Pasteurisation plants will be continued as previously.

The three existing plants have operated satisfactorily during the year. Some trouble was experienced with the Methylene Blue Test on samples taken during the very hot weather; this was mainly due to delay in transit to the laboratory. One dairy experienced trouble with the Phosphatase Test, but the fault was discovered and later samples were all satisfactory.

Eighteen samples were taken of washed bottles and this materially helped to improve the sterilisation of bottles. At the request of the County Medical Officer of Health, ten samples of milk were taken for biological tests. The results showed Tubercle Bacilli present in one sample which led to the offending cow being traced and slaughtered. The milk in question was being pasteurised before sale.

DETAIL OF MILK PRODUCERS AND DEALERS.

Number of—

Retail Purveyors	...	...	...	5
Wholesale Dealers	...	...	...	1
Cowkeepers	...	...	...	15
Licensed Producers of Tuberculin Tested Milk				1
Licensed Retailers of Tuberculin Tested Milk				3
Licensed Producers of Accredited Milk	...			8
Licensed Producers of Pasteurised Milk	...			3
Licensed Retailers of Pasteurised Milk	...			3
Inspections made of cowsheds and dairies	...			145

DETAILS OF SAMPLING.

Visits re sampling	...	...	...	125
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PASTEURISED MILK.

No. of Samples.	Satisfactory.	Failed Methylene Blue Test.	Failed Phosphatase Test.
115	106	4	5

RAW MILK.

	No. of Samples.	Satisfactory.	Failed M.B. Test.	Failed Bacillus Coli Test.
Tuberculin Tested Milk	3	2	—	1
Accredited Milk	8	6	—	2
Non-Designated Milk	4	3	1	1

Meat and other Foods.

Number of inspections and visits made of Food

Shops, Stalls, Slaughter-houses, etc.	...	1,636
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(a) MEAT INSPECTION.

The Government Slaughter-house at the Grange continued in use throughout the year. Slaughtering was much heavier than in the previous years, and entailed a large amount of time on meat inspection, often late in the evening and on many Sundays.

Further improvement to the premises were carried out at the end of the year. A proper rest-room for the men has been provided with hot and cold water available for washing. A new office has also been constructed and the yard concreted.

Following representations to the Ministry and the transport contractors concerned, the transport of meat was much improved.

All the lorries are now provided with proper hanging facilities allowing the hindquarters of beef and all smalls to be hung in transit.

Proper metal containers have been provided for the offal.

As in previous years, one hundred per cent inspection of all carcasses and offal was carried out. The incidence of tuberculosis showed a rise on recent years.

CYSTICERCUS BOVIS.

In accordance with Ministry of Health Circular No. MF/5/48, a systematic inspection has been made of all cattle for *Cysticercus Bovis*; in each case, the internal and external masseter muscles of the head, the pillars of the diaphragm and the heart muscles were incised. This inspection is particularly important, as infected meat may give rise to the Tapeworm *Tania Saginata* in humans.

A considerable number of cases were discovered, and it is evident that the disease is now widespread.

The head, tongue and heart were condemned in every case, the remainder of the offal and the carcass are sent for cold storage for twenty-one days at 16° F. This freezing kills any cysts which may be in the carcass. After release from cold storage, the carcass is used for manufacturing purposes.

Details of cases found are as follows :—

Cases discovered	...	...	50
(Market : Local 18 ; South West 14 ; Midland 13 ; East 5).			
Percentage of animals killed	...	...	1'02
Type of animal—			
Steer	...	...	23
Heifer	...	...	12
Cow	...	...	15
Primary Cyst discovered—			
Head	...	...	31
Heart	...	...	19

The incidence was highest during the summer months. The seventeen cases found during August being 3'15% of cattle slaughtered during that month.

DISTOMATOSIS (FLUKE DISEASE) in cattle livers was very prevalent, and seems to be increasing. The wastage of liver is considerable.

Details are as follows :—

Whole livers condemned	...	1,083
Part livers condemned	...	610
TOTAL	...	1,693
Weight	...	21,642 lbs.
Percentage of total inspected	...	43·7

The number of livers affected with Distomatosis is mainly responsible for the unusually high percentage of cattle affected with disease other than Tuberculosis, as given in the following table :—

Details of Inspections.	Cattle, exclu'ng Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed	2174	1722	1600	5556	136
Number inspected	2174	1722	1600	5556	136
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis—</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	2	13	6	9	6
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	638	625	3	83	7
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	29·66	37·04	0·50	1·61	9·50
<i>Tuberculosis only—</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	15	86	1	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	221	459	—	—	5
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	10·85	32·22	0·06	—	3·67

DETAILS OF CONDEMNATIONS.

101	Beef carcasses and all offal	-	Tuberculosis (86 cows).
7	Beef carcasses and all offal	-	Septicæmia (5 cows).
3	Beef carcasses and all offal	-	Johne's Disease with Emaciation
3	Beef carcasses and all offal	-	Fevered (3 cows). [(3 cows).
1	Beef carcass and all offal	-	Dropsy (cow).
1	Beef carcass and all offal	-	Malignant Neoplasms (cow).
22	Fore Quarters	- -	Tuberculosis
2	Hind Quarters	- -	Tuberculosis.
27	Briskets	- - -	Tuberculosis, Bruised, etc.
16	other parts	- -	Tuberculosis, Abscess, Bruised.
408	Heads, Tongues	- -	Tuberculosis, Cysticercus Bovis.
639	sets Lungs	- -	Tuberculosis, Pleurisy.
1240	Beef Livers	- -	Distoma, Angioma, Abscess.
610	part Livers	- -	Distoma.
94	Skirts	- - -	Tuberculosis, Cysticercus Bovis.
53	Hearts	- - -	Cysticercus Bovis, Abscess.
69	sets Guts	- - -	Tuberculosis, Abscess.
54	sets Udders	- -	Mastitis, Tuberculosis.
11	Tripes	- - -	Tuberculosis.
21	Spleens	- - -	Tuberculosis.
7	Calf carcasses	- -	Septicæmia, Tuberculosis.
6	Pig carcasses	- -	Septicæmia, Erysipelas.
9	Sheep carcasses	- -	Septicæmia, Abscess, Dropsy.
85	Sheep livers	- -	Distoma, Abscess.

Total weight of meat condemned ... 52 tons, 9 cwt.

(b) OTHER FOODS.

All food shops and food preparing premises are regularly inspected; particular attention was paid to restaurant kitchens, which were all thoroughly inspected and a register made. In several cases, suggestions for improving methods were carried out. Most kitchens are well kept, but one premises was below standard and a notice had to be served. A circular was sent to all food preparing premises pointing out the dangers of food poisoning, explaining how it could occur, and the foodstuffs particularly dangerous.

The following foodstuffs were voluntarily surrendered and condemned :—

- 11 tins Corned Beef.
- 19 tins Cooked Meat.
- 6 tins Vegetables.
- 27 tins Milk.
- 11 tins Fish.
- 6 tins Fruit.
- 1 jar Jam.
- 32 lbs. Dried Prunes.
- 4½ lbs. Sweetbreads.
- 23 lbs. Bruised Beef.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Part 1 of the Act.

1. **Inspections** for purposes as to health.

<i>Premises.</i>	<i>Number on Register.</i>	<i>Inspections.</i>	<i>Number of written Notices.</i>
(1) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	29	6	1
(2) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	46	31	—
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	—	—	—
	75	37	1

Cases in which **Defects** were found.

	FOUND.	REMEDIED.
Want of Cleanliness	1	1
Sanitary Conveniences unsuitable or defective	—	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—
	1	1

MR. C. MAINWARING is now H.M. Inspector of Factories for the Portsmouth District, which includes the Petersfield Urban District. His address is 9 Western Parade, Southsea.

